

REMARKS

By this paper, independent claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 43-49 are pending.

In the Office action dated October 11, 2006, claims 1, 6, 8, 43, 44 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Pulnev et al. (6,007,574). Moreover, claims 46, 48 and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pulnev et al. in view of Kavtladze et al. (5,643,339). Claims 3-5, 12, 13, 16 and 45 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a device comprising an elongate filament configured into a pseudo-braided pattern including a plurality of circumferentially spaced endless reversals of direction of the filament, wherein the filament is generally tubular. As such, it is believed that independent claim 1 as well as each of its dependent claims recite subject matter which is allowable over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the application be reconsidered, the claims allowed and the application passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
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